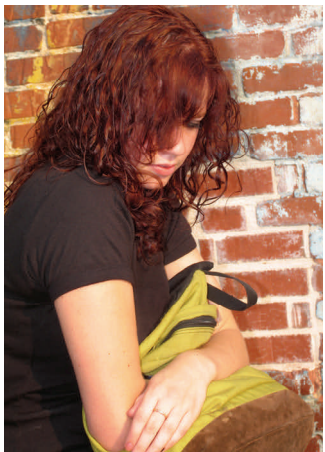


## FAMILY GROUP CONFERENCES



### What is a Family Group Conference?

It is a voluntary meeting for you, your family and other important people in your life. It's a chance to talk about any problems or concerns and try to make a plan to make things better. They are sometimes called a FGC.

It is organised by an independent co-ordinator who will come and meet with you and your family to prepare for the meeting. Independent means that they do not make any decisions in the same way that a teacher or social worker would.

### Who, Where & When?

**Who** - People chosen by you and your family. However sometimes people need to be invited who are the best to help make a plan.

**Where** - A place local to you and family friendly.

**When** - At a time that's best for you and your family.

### What happens at a FGC?

The meeting is split into three stages. There will be drinks and snacks and you don't have to be part of the whole meeting if you don't want to. If you feel you need support during it, talk to your co-ordinator about an advocate.

**Stage 1 - Information Sharing** - At this stage professionals will attend the meeting. They will share why they are working with your family, any concerns they have and the questions they would like you to answer. Anyone can ask questions about the information shared. This is time to share your feelings.

**Stage 2 - Private Family Time** - When your family group is ready, the professionals and co-ordinator will leave the room to enable you all to discuss the situation and put forward a plan for improving things.

**Stage 3 - Agreeing the Plan** - Once your family plan is agreed, you call the professionals and co-ordinator back in. Together you go through it to be clear who will do what. As long as the plan is safe and achievable it will

be agreed and given the importance of any other professional plan. A review date for the plan will be arranged.

### What happens next?

After the meeting, the co-ordinator will make sure that everyone who was invited to the FGC gets a copy of the plan.

Everyone will get together again on the review date to discuss what's worked well and what still needs improving.

### Timeline of a FGC

- Referral made to FGC service.
- Co-ordinator meets with referrer.
- Co-ordinator meets with parents/ carers.
- Co-ordinator meets with you.
- Co-ordinator meets with other family/ friends.
- Family Group Conference.
- Family work to their plan.
- Review the plan.
- End of involvement with FGC Service



***A Family Group Conference isn't a magic wand.  
For the plan to succeed, everyone needs to try their best to make it work.***

### Your Family's Questions -

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**Thoughts and Feelings?**

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# Family Group Conference Service

## A GUIDE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

**Buckinghamshire County Council**

Family Group Conference Service

1 Walton Grove, Aylesbury  
Buckinghamshire HP21 7SL

Tel: 01296 387417

Email: [familygroupconference@buckscc.gov.uk](mailto:familygroupconference@buckscc.gov.uk)

Family Group Co-ordinator's name: .....

Telephone no: .....

If you are concerned that someone is being hurt, phone Careline confidentially on free phone 0800 137915.

[www.buckscc.gov.uk](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk)



Family Group Conferences promote family unity, to agree a safe and sustainable plan, where necessary with the support of professional services and community networks, to keep children and young people safe now and in the future.

**'Family Group Conferences promote working WITH families, not doing TO or FOR'**